REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of the claim amendments, Claims 1-9, 11-21, and 29 will be all the claims pending in the application.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 20, and 29 of the present invention to more clearly delineate the patentable features of the present invention.

No new matter has been added.

Support for the Minimum Seal Temperature limitation in element b) of amended claims 1 and 20 may be found on page 15 in the data table of Example 2.

Claim 10 was previously canceled and Claims 22-28 were previously withdrawn.

Section Nos. 4 and 5: Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11, 13-15, 20, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,558,808 to Dries *et al.* ("Dries") and U.S. Patent 5,716,698 to Schreck *et al.* ("Schreck").

Claims 3, 12, 16-19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,558,808 to Dries and U.S. Patent 5,716,698 to Schreck as applied to claims 1 and 20 above and in further view of U.S. Patent 5,527,608 to Kemp-Pratchett *et al.* ("Kemp-Pratchett).

Applicant respectfully traverses both of these §103 rejections.

The claims of the present application, as amended herein, require that the sealant layer of the film have a Minimum Seal Temperature (MST) equal to or less than 174 degrees Fahrenheit. As shown in the data table of Example 2 on page 15, below line 20 of the application, Applicant's invention achieves MSTs of 174°F and below.

Of the three cited references, only Dries discusses Minimum Seal Temperatures. The formula for the calculation of the MST range of the sealant layer taught by Dries is provided at column 12, line 16. This formula (MST $\leq$ To-D·C_2, where To = 120°C; D = 3°C and $0.1 \leq C_2 \leq 10$)

yields MSTs ranging from 119.7°C (where $C_2 = 0.1$) to 90°C (where $C_2 = 10$). When converted to Fahrenheit, the MSTs of the Dries sealant layer range from 247.46°F - 194°F, respectively.

Therefore, the MSTs of Applicant's sealant layer are ***at least 20°F lower*** than the MSTs of Dries sealant layer.

For this reason, persons skilled in the art would not look to Dries *et al.* for guidance on how to create a film having a sealant layer with Minimum Seal Temperatures equal to or less than 174°F.

Additionally, none of Dries *et al.*, Schreck *et al.* and Kemp-Patchett *et al.*, alone or in any combination, disclose or suggest a film having a sealant layer with Minimum Seal Temperatures equal to or less than 174°F, as required by the amended claims.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant requests Examiner to withdraw these §103 rejections.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests Examiner to pass the present application to issue. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a telephone interview, she is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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P.14